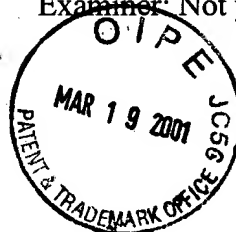


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| In re Application of |) | |
| |) | Group Art Unit: Unknown |
| Eddy Van Beek, et al. |) | |
| |) | |
| Serial No. 09/753,381 |) | Examiner: Not yet assigned |
| |) | |
| Filed: January 2, 2001 |) | |
| |) | |
| For: METHOD FOR IMPROVING THE |) | |
| ACTIVITY OF ENZYMES |) | |



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, a list of documents that may be material to the examination of this application is provided on the attached Form PTO-1449. Listed Documents A1 to A6 are U.S. and foreign patents, and pertinent articles that may be relevant to the examination of the present application. Copies of Documents A1 to A6 are enclosed herewith.

Documents for which the supplied date of publication lists the year of publication without the month were published sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date, so that the particular month of publication is not in issue. Pursuant to §609 of the MPEP, it is understood that the month of publication is not required when the particular month of publication is not in issue.

No inferences should be drawn that the attached list represents a comprehensive investigation, or that any material disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. In addition, none of the documents that have publication dates prior to the priority date of the above application anticipate the invention in this application.

The cited documents disclose numerous specific features. There has been no attempt to list each and every feature disclosed by each document. The Examiner is requested to review the documents and determine the extent of the materiality of the document disclosures with respect to the present invention.

The discussion of any art and the citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that the art or document disclosure is necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, that the art or document disclosure are necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that the art or document disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art as defined by the patent law with respect to the instant invention and application.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art and documents recited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

The recitation herein of the art and documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence.

A1

United States Patent

| <u>No.</u> | <u>U.S. Patent No.</u> | <u>Patent Date</u> | <u>Patentee</u> |
|------------|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 5,759,537 | June 2, 1998 | David Garnett |

A2-A3

Foreign Patent Documents

| <u>No.</u> | <u>Country</u> | <u>Application No.</u> | <u>Filing Date</u> | <u>Inventor</u> |
|------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2 | EPO | EP 0743017A2 | May 15, 1996 | R.F. Beudeker |
| 3 | EPO | EP 0619079B1 | April 8, 1994 | S. Shibahara et al. |

A4-A6

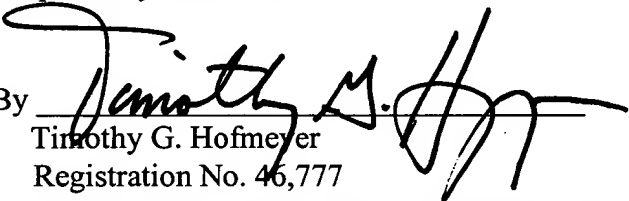
Publications

- 4) B. Sas et al., *Efficient Method for (Lyso)Phospholipid Class Separation by High Performance Liquid Chromatography Using an Evaporative Light- Scattering Detector*, 864 J. CHROMATOGRAPHY A 179 (1999).
- 5) B.Z. de Rodas et al., *Exogenous Emulsifiers in Early Weaned Pig Diets* (unknown U.S. publication and date).
- 6) Bepaling NDF-Gehalte (Neutral Detergent Fiber) (unknown Dutch publication and date) (English translation attached).

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: MARCH 16, 2001

By


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Enclosures:
Form PTO-1449
Prior Art

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement, together with the stated enclosures, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on _____.